

04 May 2004

TO: All persons who operate a motor vehicle on RSA.

SUBJECT: Use of Hand-Held Communication Devices while Operating a Motorized Vehicle on RSA

POLICY: The Commander, US Army Garrison - Redstone will take appropriate action to restrict drivers from using any hand-held communication device or related equipment while driving a motorized vehicle on RSA. Policy violators may be subject to suspension or revocation of installation driving privileges.

PURPOSE: To inform RSA personnel of increasing safety concerns associated with the use of hand-held communication devices while driving motorized vehicles and actions that will be taken against individuals who violate this policy.

DISCUSSION:

a. An increasing number of motor vehicle accidents attributable to driver distractions, particularly those resulting from cell-phone usage, has prompted safety concerns nationwide and specifically here at Redstone Arsenal. Vehicle drivers are strongly encouraged not to eat, drink, smoke, apply make-up, adjust radios, discipline children, or engage in other distracting activities which cause unsafe acts while the vehicle is in motion.

b. This policy applies to all persons who operate a motor vehicle on RSA. Vehicle drivers **will not** use hand-held communication and navigation devices such as cell phones or electronic devices such as personal data assistants (PDAs) and global positioning systems (GPS) while driving a motorized vehicle. Vehicle drivers will only operate these devices once the vehicle has been safely stopped, and the vehicle placed in park.

c. There will be two exceptions to this prohibition:

(1) Emergency responders using cell phones and hand-held radios: military police, firefighters, emergency maintenance personnel, hazardous material handlers operating in immediate cleanup situations.

(2) Safety/Emergency personnel using hand-held radios: Range safety personnel operating radios on active ranges, and FCC licensed amateur radio operators operating vehicle mounted radios are also excepted from this prohibition.

d. Upon issuance of a DD FORM 1408 (Armed Forces Traffic Citation), the offending driver's sponsor, commander, or employing agency director will be notified.

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e. A total of two points will be assessed to the offending driver's driving record for the initial and each subsequent violation. Redstone Arsenal driving privileges will be suspended or revoked for violations as listed in AR 190-5, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision, Chapter 5, Driving Records and the Traffic Point System, paragraph 5-1, Driving records. The will also be revoked or suspended if various violations total an accumulation of 12 points within 12 consecutive months or 18 points within 24 consecutive months. Suspensions based on traffic points will not exceed 6 months. Revocations based on traffic points will be for a period of 6 to 12 months. (Driving privileges are usually suspended when other measures have failed to improve a driver's performance, or pending actions that may result in revocation. Driving privileges are revoked for serious moving violations or when other available corrective actions fail to produce the desired driver improvement.) A longer period of revocation may be imposed on the basis of a driver's overall driving record and considering the frequency, flagrancy, severity of moving violations, and the response to previous driver improvement measures. Points assessed against a driver will remain in effect for point accumulation purposes for 24 consecutive months.

f. In all cases, military personnel must complete a prescribed remedial driver's course before driving privileges will be reinstated. Federal civilian employees and contract support personnel will also be encouraged to successfully complete a prescribed remedial driver's course as a positive factor in being considered for reinstatement of RSA driving privileges.

g. Offenders subject to suspension or revocation of RSA driving privileges will be notified by the Garrison Commander or designee and provided administrative due process in accordance with AR 190-5, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision, Chapter 2, Driving Privileges, Paragraph 2-5, Suspension or Revocation of Driving Privileges and paragraph 2-6, Administrative Due Process for Suspensions and Revocations.

REFERENCES:

Draft AR 385-55, Prevention of Motor Vehicle Accidents, Paragraph 3-5, Operator Distractions

AR 190-5, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision, Chapter 2, Driving Privileges and Chapter 5, Driving Records and the Traffic Point System

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Garrison Commander

(AMSAM-RA-PAI)

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Post on index at appendix B, GARRISON SOP 1-1, and maintain in numerical sequence as part of the appendix.
2. Remove when superseded, rescinded, or cancelled.